



**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
BOARD OF PHARMACY**

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Michael R. Dupuis, R.Ph., MHA

November 4, 2015

Hello Fellow Colleague,

As we approach the busy holiday season and hopefully a mild and uneventful winter, I wanted to make you aware of two issues that are on the radar for the next couple of months here in New Hampshire. They are the new requirement for passing a Pharmacist in Charge exam prior to December 31, 2015 and also the first meeting to begin accumulating information on workload issues and their effect on the practice of Pharmacy.

First the PIC exam: Congratulations to the pharmacists that have made their appointment and passed the PIC exam. I took my exam on Tuesday morning of this week and thought the compliance team did an excellent job presenting the questions. They are fair questions which speak to the most important issues and timelines that the Pharmacist in Charge deals with practicing every day. I would remind everyone, especially those that have attended Commissioner Bullek's excellent review in which he covers in a concise manner the many changes to our rules over the past 24 months but you will still need to review other rules that have pertinent information as they relate to a PIC's responsibilities. If you review these rules, I am confident you will pass and find the exam a great refresher on our duties and obligations.

Secondly we will be having a kick-off meeting regarding workload issues at the Board office on December 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 A.M. This first meeting will be open to pharmacists as well as permit holders and all stakeholders. The purpose of this initial meeting will be to begin talking through the many issues practitioners face in their practice settings today. The intention will be to begin looking at the challenges, discussing possible solutions and/or regulations which will address the desire for increased patient safety. We understand the issues and concerns of pharmacists as well as permit holders and truly believe we can openly discuss these issues and collectively debate what can and should be done to improve patient care. Understanding there may be those who are concerned about possible repercussions for taking part in this debate we will accept comments from licensees in written form which can be sent to the Board office.

The intention of the Board is to publish minutes from these meetings, encourage participation and hopefully begin a process that results in change that will positively move the profession forward. We welcome all those interested and encourage everyone to work with their colleagues to support meaningful change that will allow pharmacists to continue to be the valued resource patients have come to know and trust.

Sincerely,

Robert J Stout  
President